

Claims 1-121 (Canceled).

122. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) A method of reversing cardiac remodeling, comprising the step of:

delivering a material into a region of tissue of the heart so as to displace a portion of the region of tissue inward and toward the center line of the ventricular cavity, thereby normalizing cardiac geometry.

123. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) A method for reducing regurgitation of an atrioventricular valve of a heart, comprising the steps of:

delivering a material into a muscle wall region of a heart proximate the papillary muscle, said material displacing a portion of said muscle wall region inward and toward the center line of the ventricular cavity of the heart so as to normalize papillary muscle geometry and improve leaflet coaptation.

124. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step further comprises the step of injecting the material.

125. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the muscle wall region comprises the tissue plane between the coronary sinus and mitral annulus in the heart.

126. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the muscle wall region comprises a portion of the base of the heart.

127. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the muscle wall region includes damaged tissue.

128. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step further includes the step of: imaging the muscle wall region with ultrasound.

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129. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material retains a predetermined shape and volume after delivery.

130. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material comprises a nickel titanium alloy.

131. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material comprises a hydrogel that stiffens near body temperature.

132. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material is encapsulated in a structure.

133. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claim 132, wherein the structure is a balloon.

134. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claim 132, wherein the structure is a cellular matrix comprised of fibroblasts.

135. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material is engineered cellular tissue.

136. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claim 135, wherein the cellular tissue is delivered with a biodegradable scaffolding network.

137. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claim 135, wherein the cellular tissue comprises stem cells ~~programmed to transform into a cartilaginous or bony structure.~~

138. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claim 135, wherein the cellular tissue comprises myocytes producing dynamic contraction in temporal coordination with electrical activation of the heart.

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139. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material comprises conductive polymers, and the material displaces the portion of the muscle wall region by contracting in response to electrical triggering.

140. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step comprises an invasive cardiac procedure.

141. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step comprises a thoracoscopic procedure.

142. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step serves to reduce mitral annulus size.

143. (Currently amended) (~~RL, JH, LG, GV~~) The method of claims 122 or 123, further comprising the step of: repeating the delivering step at a different muscle wall region of the heart.